# Continuous dopaminergic stimulation minimizes levodopa-induced motor complications

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### **Prevalence of Motor** Fluctuations

- Varies with
  - age of patient
  - duration of disease

M

- type of therapy



### Effect of Age on Motor Fluctuations





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Kumar N et al. (2005) Mov Disorders 20: 342-366

#### Effect of Disease Duration on Motor Fluctuations



### Effect of Therapy on Motor Fluctuations

- Continuous dopamine stimulation (CDS)
  - Physiological
  - Reduces priming
  - Reduces fluctuations once primed



# **CDS** is Physiological

Microelectrode trajectory Thalamus STN: single unit 5 mm ST SNr STN: two units STN: multiple units

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (LZW) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Grace and Bunney, 1984



#### Dopamine is tonically released

QuickTime<sup>™</sup> and a TIFF (LZW) decompressor are needed to see this picture.



Keefe, Zigmond, Abercombie, 1992

# Etiology of Fluctuations

- Presynaptic mechanisms
  - Loss of DA buffering capacity
  - Extraneuronal DA synthesis from levodopa
- Postsynaptic
  - Alterations in DA receptors (unlikely)
  - Plasticity
    - Increased PPE in indirect pathway
    - Altered glutamate receptors



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#### Priming with Postsynaptic Pulsitile Stimulation





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Babbiani et al (2004) Exp Neurol

#### Maybe COMT-I will help.

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Smith et al., 1995

#### Fluctuations are Dependent on Levodopa Levels



# Fluctuations improve acutely with CDS





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Mouradian et al. (1990)

# What's the evidence in clinical practice?



Basal ganglia, Parkinson's disease and levodopa therapy: TINS supplement

#### CDS with Duodopa

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# CDS with Continuous Apomorphine

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#### Similarities to Kindling





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